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Eastman-Dodge County
Chamber of Commerce

Chairman Julius Genachowski Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

July 7, 2011

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

This letter is in response to your call for comments about AT&T's proposal to merge with T-Mobile USA, which is on the Commission's 11–65 docket. We are pleased to have this opportunity to share our view on this issue.

At the Eastman-Dodge County Chamber of Commerce, we take pride in our community in part because it seamlessly blends a rich history with Southern hospitality, hometown values, and optimism for the future. Like many chambers of commerce across the U.S., we focus on encouraging local economic development, assisting our member businesses, and promoting our community to various businesses in other areas. But we also seek to promote the welfare of all area citizens and to expand the community while still preserving our small-town way of life and our history. We feel that gives us a unique and balanced perspective.

Maybe it is this variety of objectives that helps us to see clearly the possibilities and opportunities that this merger would bring to our area and to others across the country. The merger would result in a significant build out of the existing broadband network infrastructure, blanketing almost all the entire country. This build out would finance the technological proliferation to create new jobs, spur innovation, and encourage entrepreneurship necessary to put our country back on track. Access to reliable, fast wireless broadband will give people new opportunities and allow them to achieve more. And based on our experience here in Georgia, a state which led the charge in deregulating the communications industry, local businesses and residents will benefit from the competitive pricing and accelerated growth that has occurred from similar kinds of previous industry transactions.

We like to tell prospective visitors that in Eastman and Dodge County, you can experience history and history in the making. Here's your chance to make history for our community and for many others. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Cordially,
Audy Homphill Madden

Judy Hemphill Madden

President/CEO/Economic Developer

Eastman-Dodge Area Chamber of Commerce

CC: Commissioner Michael Copps; Commissioner Robert McDowell; Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

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